

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A device for binding a boot to a sports article, wherein the boot comprises a sole, the sole having a front anchor and a rear anchor located rearwardly of the front anchor, said device comprising:

    a linkage element movable with respect to the sports article between a low position and a high position;

    the linkage element comprising a front retaining system and a rear retaining system;

    wherein the front and rear retaining systems cooperate respectively with the front and rear anchors of the sole for removably fastening the sole of the boot to the linkage member; and

    wherein the front retaining system can be opened to allow an unfastening of the boot from the device.

2. A device according to claim 1, wherein the front retaining system comprises an actuating member, said actuating member can actuate the front retaining system towards an open position.

3. A device according to claim 1, wherein the front retaining system is an automatic engagement system for automatically engaging the boot.

4. A device according to claim 1, wherein the rear retaining system allows for the disengagement of the rear anchor of the boot when the front anchor is disengaged from the front retaining system.

5. A device according to claim 1, wherein the front retaining system comprises a latch that is articulated on the linkage member.

6. A device according to claim 1, wherein the front retaining system is biased to a latching position by a spring element.

7. A device according to claim 6, wherein the front retaining system comprises a retracting ramp due to which the front retaining system is retracted to an opening position when the boot is supported on the ramp.

8. A device according to claim 1, wherein the rear retaining system comprises a hook slidably mounted on the linkage member.

9. A device according to claim 1, wherein the rear retaining system is biased to a retaining position by a spring element.

10. A device according to claim 1, wherein the rear retaining system has an automatic engagement.

11. A device according to claim 1, wherein the linkage member is connected to the sports article by at least one connecting rod.

12. A device according to claim 1, wherein the linkage member takes support on the sports article by a convex surface, and wherein, when the linkage member is displaced between its high and low positions, the linkage member effects a rolling movement that slides with respect to the sports article.

13. A device according to claim 1, wherein the linkage member is articulated with respect to the sports article about a stationary transverse axle.

14. A device according to claim 1 in combination with the boot.

15. A device in combination with the boot according to claim 14, wherein the sole of the boot is flexible.

16. A device in combination with the boot according to claim 14, wherein the rear anchor of the boot sole is located in the area of or in front of a metatarso-phalangeal bending zone of the boot sole.